

REMARKS**Interview Summary**

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Fletcher for the helpful discussions with Applicants' representative on August 14, 2007 and on August 27, 2007. During these discussions, it was agreed that the pending claims are the "base" claims when compared with claims 50 and 52-57 of copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/440,022 ('022). Independent claim 50 of the '022 application includes the claim element "wherein the surface comprises a polymer", which is not present in the claims of the present application.

Double Patenting

Applicants respectfully request that the provisional rejection of the pending claims under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over the claims of the '022 application be withdrawn. As noted in MPEP 804(I)(B)(1) 2nd paragraph, if two copending applications are filed on the same day, the claims should be reviewed to determine which application includes the base claims and which application includes the improvement claims. The obviousness-type double patenting rejection in the base application can be withdrawn without a terminal disclaimer.

Both the '022 application and the present application have an effective filing date of May 16, 2003. Since the pending claims are the "base" claims when compared with claims 50 and 52-57 of the '022 application, the present application should be allowed to issue without a terminal disclaimer. Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

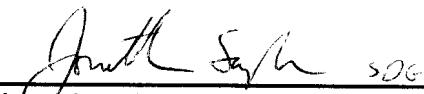
CONCLUSION

All of the grounds raised in the present Office Action for rejecting the application are believed to be overcome or rendered moot based on the remarks above. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently presented claims are in form for allowance, and such action is requested. Should the Examiner feel a discussion would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at (312) 876-1400.

Respectfully submitted,

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